

Peacekeeper (MX) Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM) now at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming.

As a field grade and general officer, he distinguished himself by serving in numerous capacities, including commanding a Minuteman ICBM squadron selected as "Best in Strategic Air Command," and subsequently our nation's largest ICBM wing.

As the Director of Plans and Programs at Headquarters, Air Force Space Command, Colorado Springs, Colorado, he created the command's Strategic Master Plan.

While in Moscow, he negotiated with the Soviet Union "The Reduction of Dangerous Military Activities Agreement." Since its 1989 signing, it has allowed Russian and American forces to operate in proximity to one another and precludes an involuntary act or miscalculation by either military force—whether land, air or sea—to escalate into a combat or war situation.

Brigadier General Pettit's final command was at the 45th Space Wing, overseeing America's eastern space launch range. The Eastern Range encompasses a 15 million square mile area.

Brigadier General Pettit's education accomplishments include an undergraduate degree from the University of Miami, Master of Arts degree from Pepperdine University, and graduating from the Marine and Air Force command and staff colleges and the Air War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Superior Service Medal, and Joint Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Brigadier General Pettit is married to the former Carol Worley, of Miami, Fla., and they have a son Michael, a 2002 University of Colorado graduate.

I am honored to rise in support of General Pettit's service to our nation, and I am proud of his commitment to the cause of liberty and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO JUSTIN WELLS

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor a very brave young man from my district in Kentucky. Mr. Justin Wells is a hero in the truest sense of the word. While driving home from the hardware store, Justin and his father came upon a near fatal car accident. Taking the first aid kit from his father's trunk, Justin rushed to help the injured man, who was bleeding profusely and whose leg had been pinned down by the steering wheel of the car. Holding a compression bandage to the man's wounds while trying to keep the victim calm, Justin used the skills he had gained as both a Medical Trainer at St. Xavier High School and as a First Aid Instructor for Boy Scout Troop 380 to attend to the injuries. Justin was not deterred by the danger of the situation, or the possibility of an electric fire from the sparks emanating from the dashboard. Instead, he courageously tended to the injured man until the rescue squad arrived.

It is my great honor to pay tribute to Justin Wells, and to thank him for his courage, resourcefulness, and desire to help those in need. Justin is a very special young man, and I hardily applaud his commitment to his fellow citizens, even in the face of danger. His actions show that one person can make a great difference. Again, I offer my congratulations to Justin for his courage and good will.

HONORING ELNER G. OVERDEER

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elner G. Overdeer who was honored as the winner of the 2002 Dauphin County Senior EXPO Outstanding Senior Award. She has dedicated her life to the service of others and for this she must be both appreciated and congratulated.

Ms. Overdeer clearly demonstrates a spirit of unconditional giving through her many initiatives that have benefited our community. She is a sterling example of kindness and integrity. Throughout the years she has been affiliated with a number of charitable and selfless organizations. These include the Middletown Historical Restoration Commission where she has served on the board since 1980, the Middletown Historical Society, the Regent of Swatara Pine-Ford Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Middletown Senior Citizens Center, the Middletown Area Alumni Association, the Presbyterian Congregational Church where she has served as an ordained ruling elder, and the Middletown Borough Authority where she has been the secretary for the past thirteen years.

It is with great honor, Mr. Speaker, that I call on all Members to join me in congratulating and thanking Elner G. Overdeer. Her years of service to the community have benefited many people in more ways than these mere words can express.